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Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Thomas B. Stanford, et al.) Re: Information Disclosure
Serial No.: 10/680,937) Statement
Filed: October 7, 2003) Group: 2856
For: "SENSOR FOR DETECTION OF ENZYME) Examiner: not yet assigned
AND ENZYME DETECTION METHOD...") Our Ref: B-4588NP 620930-1
Date: July 22, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA, 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the Applicants' duty to disclose information which may be material to the examination of this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Examiner consider on the merits the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) before issuing the first Office Action on the merits.

Copies of the foreign patent documents and the non-patent publications listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) are enclosed herewith for the Examiner's convenience. Copies of the U.S. patent documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) are not enclosed, pursuant to Deputy Commissioner Stephen G. Kunin's Pre OG Notice dated July 11, 2003, with the exception of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/876,992 because this U.S. application has not been published.

It should be noted that the above-identified application may be related by subject matter to the following U.S. Patent Application(s): 08/876,992, filed June 16, 1997; 09/679,428, filed on October 3, 2000 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,730,212 B1); and 10/230,947, filed August 29, 2002 (published as U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0062263 A1). Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) and M.P.E.P. § 2004, paragraph 9, the applicant brings these co-pending applications to the attention of the Examiner. The Examiner should consider this information during the prosecution of the above-identified application. However, citation of these applications does not constitute an admission that the claims of the present application are substantially similar or similar to

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those of the applications listed above.

The documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) include those that are cited in a PCT International Search Report for PCT Application No. PCT/US01/28717, which corresponds to the above-mentioned U.S. Application No. 09/679,428. Please note that PCT Application No. PCT/US01/28717 involves subject matter that is arguably similar to the subject matter of the above-identified U.S. Application No. 10/680,937. A copy of the PCT International Search Report (4 pages) for PCT Application No. PCT/US01/28717 is enclosed herewith.

The documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) also include those that are cited in a PCT International Search Report for PCT Application No. PCT/US02/27676, which corresponds to the above-mentioned U.S. Application No. 10/230,947. Please note that PCT Application No. PCT/US02/27676 involves subject matter that is arguably similar to the subject matter of the above-identified U.S. Application No. 10/680,937. A copy of the PCT International Search Report (4 pages) for PCT Application No. PCT/US02/27676 is enclosed herewith.

Japanese Patent Document No. 05-296960 is not in English. A concise English-language explanation of the relevance of Japanese Patent Document No. 05-296960 can be found in the partial English-language translation that is attached to Japanese Patent Document No. 05-296960. A concise English-language explanation of the relevance of Japanese Patent Document No. 05-296960 can also be found in the enclosed one-page English-language abstract that is attached to Japanese Patent Document No 05-296960.

Japanese Patent Document No. 03-089156 is not in English. A concise English-language explanation of the relevance of Japanese Patent Document No. 03-089156 can be found in the partial English-language translation that is attached to Japanese Patent Document No. 03-089156. A concise English-language explanation of the relevance of Japanese Patent Document No. 03-089156 can

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also be found in the enclosed two-page English-language abstract that is attached to Japanese Patent Document No 03-089156.

Japanese Patent Document No. 63-215960 is not in English. A concise English-language explanation of the relevance of Japanese Patent Document No. 63-215960 can be found in the partial English-language translation that is attached to Japanese Patent Document No. 63-215960. A concise English-language explanation of the relevance of Japanese Patent Document No. 63-215960 can also be found in the enclosed one-page English-language abstract that is attached to Japanese Patent Document No 63-215960.

Japanese Patent Document No. 58-176538 is not in English. A concise English-language explanation of the relevance of Japanese Patent Document No. 58-176538 can be found in the enclosed one-page English-language abstract that is attached to Japanese Patent Document No 58-176538. A concise English-language explanation of the relevance of this Japanese-language Patent Document is also set forth below:

Japanese Patent Document No. 58-176538 relates to conductive polymer gas sensors having interdigitated electrodes.

The document "Caractérisation de dépôts adhérents de polypyrrole sur substrats de verre," by F. Faverolle et al., listed on the enclosed form PTO-1449 (modified), is not in the English language. A concise English-language explanation of the relevance of this foreign-language document is set forth below:

"Caractérisation de dépôts adhérents de polypyrrole sur substrats de verre," relates to conductive polymer gas sensors having interdigitated electrodes.

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The document *Shinsozai* by N. Oyama et al., listed on the enclosed form PTO-1449 (modified), is not in the English language. A concise English-language explanation of the relevance of this foreign-language document is set forth below:

Shinsozai relates to conductive polymer gas sensors having interdigitated electrodes.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The Applicants believe that this IDS is being submitted before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance. Therefore, no official fees should be due; and this IDS should be considered on the merits. If this IDS is being submitted after the issuance of the first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-0415 \$180.00 (or any other required amount), which is the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c); and this IDS should be fully considered on the merits, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d). If this IDS is being submitted after the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, then the Commissioner is not authorized to charge \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. 12-0415.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

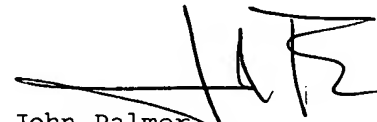
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The person making this statement is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of information supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)) and on the basis of information in the practitioner's file.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450", on July 22, 2004 by Shana Morda.



Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Form PTO-1449 (modified) (10 pages)
Copy of Non-U.S. Patent documents listed on Form PTO-1449
(modified), with the exception of U.S. Patent Application No.
08/876,992



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | ISSUE DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE or 102(e) DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|------------------|------------|------------------|-------|----------|--|
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| | 5,922,537 | 7/13/1999 | Ewart et al. | 435 | 6 | 11/08/1996 |
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| Form PTO-1449 (Modified) Page 2 of 10 | ATTY DOCKET NO. B-4588NP 620930-1 | U.S. SERIAL NO. 10/680,937 |
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| Examiner Initial | DOCUMENT NUMBER | PUBLICATION DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES/NO |
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| | 0 596 973 B1 | 12/27/1995 | EP | | | |
| | 05-296960 (with 1-page English-language abstract) | 11/12/1993 | JP | | | yes (partial) |
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| | 58-176538 (with 1-page English-language abstract) | 10/17/1983 | JP | | | |
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